

## Message Text

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67

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 DRC-01 /116 W  
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R 101951Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2667

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 5790

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CI, MX

SUBJECT: ECHEVERRIA COMMENTS ON MEXICAN-CHILEAN RELATIONS

1. AT A BREAKFAST-PRESS CONFERENCE FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS  
ON JULY 6, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA RESPONDED TO A QUESTION ON  
THIS SUBJECT AS FOLLOWS.

2. AFTER RELATING BACKGROUND OF WARM GOM RELATIONS WITH  
ALLENDE GOVERNMENT, ECHEVERRIA SAID THAT FOLLOWING THE  
SEPTEMBER 1973 COUP, MEXICO OPENED THE DOORS OF ITS  
SANTIAGO EMBASSY "LIKE NO OTHER COUNTRY" TO ASYLEES.  
"THIS BOTHERED SOME PEOPLE IN CHILE". ECHEVERRIA SAID HE  
TOLD FONSEC RABASA TO GO TO CHILE AND BRING BACK NOT ONLY  
THE CURRENT 72 ASYLEES BUT ALSO THE FORMER CABINET MINISTERS  
UNDER ALLENDE. THE LATTER, PER ECHEVERRIA, ARE "IN  
DIFFICULT CONDITIONS ON AN ISLAND WITH AN EXTREME CLIMATE"  
AND ARE "SUBJECT TO INADEQUATE PROCESSES". RABASA, THE  
PRESIDENT SAID, WENT AND OBTAINED THE 72 ASYLEES BUT NOT  
THE MINISTERS WHO "REMAIN FOR US A BANDERA VIVA".

3. WITH RESPECT TO MEXICAN SALE OF COMMODITIES NEEDED  
BY CHILE, ECHEVERRIA SAID "TO SELL WHAT WE DO NOT HAVE, WHAT  
IS BECOMING SCARCE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, IS A  
LITTLE DIFFICULT."

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4. COMMENT: ECHEVERRIA'S COMMENTARY ON RABASA'S TRIP BORDERS ON THE CONTEMPTUOUS, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE COMMITMENTS MADE BY RABASA TO THE GOC AND HIS SUBSEQUENT FOOT-DRAGGING (FOR WHICH HE PLEADS VULNERABILITY TO PRESS CRITICS). IT IS DIFFICULT TO VIEW ECHEVERRIA'S COMMENTS, AND PARTICULARLY THEIR TONE, AS OTHER THAN CYNICAL IN THE EXTREME. MEMBERS OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS COMMENTING ON THIS SUBJECT ALSO VIEW THE MEXICAN POSITION AS HIGHLY CYNICAL.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, POLITICAL ASYLUM, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** martinml  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974MEXICO05790  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740184-0704  
**From:** MEXICO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <11 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by martinml>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ECHEVERRIA COMMENTS ON MEXICAN-CHILEAN RELATIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CI, MX, (ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ, LUIS)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005